

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 24, 2016

Members Present: Scottie Ard, Jim Jackson and Mike Montello

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Craig Yehlik, Matt Melby, Kristina Williamson and Jeanne Bergman

Scottie Ard called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. and roll call was taken.

Jim Jackson moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Scottie Ard and carried.

Jim Jackson moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting of April 6, 2016, seconded by Scottie Ard and carried.

Parade Protocol – Closing of Streets/Opening of Streets

Craig Yehlik is in the process of securing the Fun Fest parade permit from the State. No detours are anticipated so the parade route will be the same as the Loyalty Day parade, from High Street to East Sixth Street. Discussion followed on the route, line-up and locations for disbursement. Craig will contact Rob Kreibich from the Chamber to see where the school intends to load the band students. Scottie Ard will finalize the parade map layout and then send it to Craig for his review.

Dogs Off Leash on City Trails/Pathways

There have been a number of complaints and confrontations of unleashed dogs in the City. City ordinance requires all dogs to be leashed, licensed and hold a current rabbi vaccination.

Discussion followed on the following ways to help control the problem:

- Educate the public on the leash ordinance and the consequences
- Promote the use of the dog park
- Encourage the public to call the police department and/or dog catcher with complaints
- Post the leash ordinance at veterinary clinics
- Submit an article and pictures to the newspaper of the some of the problem areas
- Restart the bike patrol program

Craig reported he recently posted the leash ordinance on the police department's website and has made a request to the newspaper to do the same. Discussion took place on implementing the bike patrol again by possibly using an intern or by securing grant money. Scottie will check to see if there are any Community Health grants available. Craig will report back at the next meeting on how the bike patrol was done and paid for in the past. Mike Montello moved to continue this conversation and advance it to the City Council, seconded by Jim Jackson and carried.

Establish subcommittee to meet monthly to review and update policy and procedure changes for Police Department

It has been past practice to have the police department policies and procedures reviewed and edited by the Public Safety Committee but this hasn't been done for some time. Currently, legal review of these policies is not in the budget so the suggestion was made to establish a subcommittee to perform these duties. Craig reported the department currently is using Lexipol, a national company that writes model police policies. These policies are then tailored to fit the needs of the City. Due to time restraints and budgetary reasons, Craig suggested only the nine main policies and the recommended changes for 2016 be reviewed this year. Mike Montello moved to create a subcommittee to review police policies and procedures, seconded by Scottie Ard and carried. Craig was asked to review his budget and update the Committee at the next meeting if there is enough money to allow Attorney Kristina Williamson to be part of the review process.

Public information campaign on fires in the City, burning yard waste and garbage:

We have had a number of complaints of people burning rubbish and garden waste in fire pits and grills. The ordinance is very specific on what can be burned and on size/placement of fire pits. The hope is to educate people on open burning and fire pit use by utilizing face book, City website and the newspaper. The police and fire departments try to educate the public rather than issue citations unless the party is a repeat offender. Discussion took place on raising the citation fee to encourage people to follow the rules and prevent toxic material from polluting the air.

Communications and Miscellaneous

The Park Art Fair will be June 3rd and 4th. The Chamber is still looking for volunteers.

Mike Montello moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jim Jackson and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Minutes by Jeanne Bergman